



## COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Ian Parkinson Sheriff-Coroner

June 27, 2019

**SENT VIA US MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL (74719-34526242@requests.muckrock.com)**

MuckRock News  
Attn: Samuel Sinyangwe  
DEPT MR 74719  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

**RE: Public Records Act Request Received June 5, 2019**

Dear Mr. Sinyangwe,

We write in response to the above-referenced Public Records Act request which was received by the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office via email sent to Victoria O'Keeffe on June 5, 2019. Your request along with our responses are listed below.

1. The total number of sheriff's deputy use of force incidents, broken down by type of force used, between 2013-2018 (separated by year).
2. 2013-2018 (separated by year).
3. The total number of use of force complaints reported between 2013-2018 (separated by year).
4. The total number of use of force complaints sustained between 2013-2018 (separated by year).
5. The policy manual of the sheriff's department.

At the outset we note your request is vague and ambiguous in that it is not clear as to what you mean by "use of force." For example, our agency has a policy regarding use of force, and it defines force as the application of physical techniques or tactics or chemical agents or weapons to another person. On the other hand, annually law enforcement is required to report use of force incidents to the California Department of Justice pursuant to California Government Code section 12525.2 et seq. The reporting requirements involve great bodily injury or death of a peace officer or citizen. This makes it unclear as to what information you may be seeking.

Furthermore, our agency does not currently track use of force incidents by type or by the number of people per incident. We were able to extract the number of use of force incidents by year as defined by our policy (see below).

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>NO. OF INCIDENTS</b>
2013	66
2014	41
2015	35
2016	36
2017	55
2018	54

Lastly, the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual consists of over 660 individual pages. The majority of which is releasable, however we would need to review the entire manual to determine what, if any, policies are exempt from disclosure. Pursuant to California Government Code section 6253 subsection (b), we would require a payment of sixty-five dollars up front to cover the cost of duplication and would bill for any remaining fees required at ten cents per page.

In an effort to better assist you in obtaining the records you need, please feel free to contact me directly at (805) 781-4645, or via email. Upon receipt of the fees for duplication we will begin reviewing and preparing the requested documents for release.

Sincerely,

Kati Porter  
Sheriff's Records Manager  
kporter@co.slo.ca.us